

automatically reexamining remaining words for previously determined grapheme/phoneme pairs and at least one of phoneme units and grapheme units determined previously; and

automatically erasing, at least after said assigning for the words in the database having an identical number of graphemes and phonemes, any assignment which contradicts another assignment determined to be valid.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please DELETE the Abstract in its entirety and replace with the attached Substitute Abstract.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the English translation as filed. It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-17 have been canceled and claims 18-43 have been added. Thus, claims 18-43 are pending and are under consideration.

A substitute specification is also being filed herewith. The substitute specification is accompanied by a marked-up copy of the original specification.

If there are any questions regarding these matters, such questions can be addressed by telephone to the undersigned. Otherwise, an early action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 3/1/02

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